

## REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview of July 26, 2004. During the interview, the applicability of cited reference U.S. Patent No. 5,390,723 to the claimed invention was discussed. Additionally discussed was the cited reference U.S. Patent No. 1,502,861. While specific potential alterations to the claims were discussed, no formal agreement to the patentability of these claims was reached.

Claims 1-38 are pending in the present application. Of these pending claims, Claims 2 and 4 are being cancelled herein. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsideration or withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

## REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meloche (U.S. Patent No. 1,502,861). The Examiner's attention is directed toward amendment Claim 1 which incorporates the limitations of Claims 2 and 4. As Meloche reference does not teach a back splash structure, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 is improper.

### **REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated over various references. Specifically, independent Claims 1, 24, and 34 stand rejected in view of Leobold, et al. (U.S. 5,201,811) alone or in view of various references. Applicant respectfully asserts that the Leobold reference teaches a mold for producing a core to be used in the casting of an involute component as opposed to the mold for casting the involute component itself. As such, Applicant asserts that for this and other reasons, the Leobold reference does not teach the limitations as claimed. Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to amended Claims 1, 24, and 34 which have been amended to further clarify that the claimed pouring basin is for melted metal.

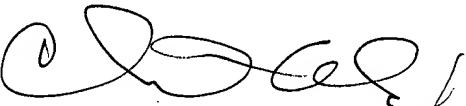
### **CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the

Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1243.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Aug 17 - 2004

By:   
Christopher A. Eusebi, Reg. No. 44,672

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

CAE/smb